



COUNCILMEMBER SHERRI S. LIGHTNER

CITY OF SAN DIEGO – COUNCIL DISTRICT 1

Press Release

For Immediate Release

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Lightner Hosts FIRST Robotics Demonstration

Event to highlight upcoming regional robotics competition

SAN DIEGO – A robot took over the lobby of the City Administration Building this afternoon – a soccer playing robot to be exact.

It was all part of a demonstration by The Holy Cows, a local FIRST Robotics team from High Tech High School. Councilmember Sherri Lightner hosted the event to highlight an upcoming regional robotics competition being hosted March 2 to March 4 in San Diego at the Valley View Casino Center.

The competition is part of a national program known as FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics, which is designed to give high school and middle school students hands-on experience designing and building robots.

Lightner, an engineer herself, is a longtime supporter of the program because of its emphasis on math and engineering, which is critical in preparing San Diego's future workforce.

"As city leaders, we should always be looking for ways to support our schools and highlight the importance of science, technology, engineering and math," Lightner said. "We need to partner with our schools and universities and tap into their intellectual talent. It's good for our children and it's critical for the future of our economy."

The Holy Cows are, in fact, run like a business with both public relations and engineering departments. Every January, the team spends six weeks developing and creating a robot in preparation for that year's competitions. Last year the team won the Regional Chairman's Award at the San Diego Regional Competition.

For more information about the Sixth Annual FIRST Robotics Regional Competition, click [here](#). To learn more about the national FIRST Robotics program, click [here](#).

Sherri Lightner is the councilmember for Council District One of the City of San Diego, which includes the communities of Black Mountain Ranch, Carmel Valley, Del Mar Mesa, La Jolla, Pacific Highlands Ranch, Rancho Peñasquitos, Torrey Hills, Torrey Highlands, Torrey Pines, and University City. She took office December 8, 2008.